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Tuesday, March 14, 2023

Total 20 pages

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The Head Lake Park fundraising committee launched their fundraiser for the new park, which is set to be installed in late spring. Pictured is a rendering of the new park. /Renderings by Park N Play Design

Head Lake Park playground to break ground in spring

VIVIAN COLLINGS

Editor

Head Lake Park is set to have a 9000 square foot, accessible playground in late spring.

The playground has been designed, all major pieces have been ordered, and the fundraising committee has been able to secure over \$500,000 in grants and donations, putting them well on their way to their \$600,000

goal.

"This is going to be a destination playground and something so special to Haliburton," said Head Lake Park playground fundraising committee member Nicole Baumgartner Spooner. "Its going to be the most amazing thing to see how a revamped Head Lake Park will impact our community for years to come. Having already been able to raise so much before even launching the campaign is proof that we live in a community that recognize and want to be supportive of this goal."

So far, \$300,000 has been granted from the Municipality of Dysart's council, \$150,000 came from an Ontario Trillium Accessibility Grant, and \$50,000 is being donated by the Rotary Club of Haliburton.

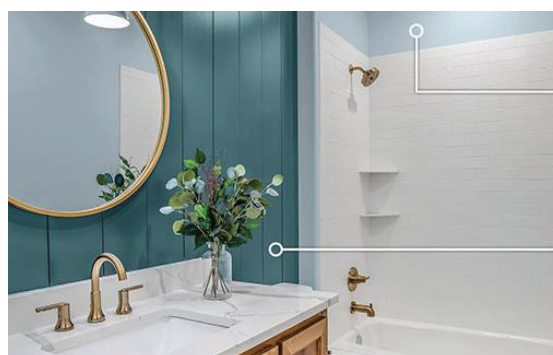
"A local playground is a great asset in our community," said Haliburton Rotary president Ursula Devolin. "Many Rotarians have children who played on the former playground equipment, and we greatly value

see FUNDRAISER page 2

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Fundraiser launched, committee now accepting donations

from page 1

resources that are accessible to all members of the community. Contributing towards new equipment was a no brainer for us. We look forward to watching the next generation of local kids and visitors play on the new structures."

Andrew Hodgson from Andrew Hodgson Real Estate gave the very first donation to the fundraiser.

Since the previous playground in Head Lake Park was closed and soon taken down in June of 2022 due to structural safety concerns, Baumgartner Spooner met with Brandon Nimigon to discuss future plans.

The two local realtors knew that many other parents were upset by the empty space in the community, an essential feature to families that was removed right before summer hit.

"One day, I came up to Brandon's office to talk about work, and at the end I said, 'I also can't believe the park is gone. It's a huge void in our community, and we have to do something about it,'" Baumgartner Spooner said.

From there, they reached out to community members to gather more information, and quickly found out that Andrea Mueller, manager of programs and events for Dysart, already intended on forming a committee to start a fundraising initiative.

"We planned for months," Nimigon said, "trying to find out what we need, what we want for that park, and once we got that, how we were going to implement it and we got it going. That's been the past two months, putting that plan into action."

Playground features

One of the main highlights of the new playground will be a fully accessible portion of the main structure for wheelchairs.

Fifteen-foot towers will stand out to anyone driving through town, walking in the park, or boating on Head Lake.

The entire playground, designed by Park N Play Design, is meant to cater to children and youth of all

see page 3



Renderings of the new Head Lake Park playground. /Park N Play Design

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Accessibility will be a main playground feature

from page 2

ages. "The whole point of it is that you can start on one side of the park as a baby, and as you grow up into a teenager, you move on to the bigger, more advanced structures," Nimigon said. "It's not just for our kids, it's for teenagers, babies, kids of all ages."

Another exciting addition will be a 100 foot zipline.

"There are hopes of integrating benches, tables, and sun shades in the future to make it a more enjoyable experience for adults as well," Baumgartner Spooner said.

The committee met with ACM Designs to put together a custom "Haliburton" colour scheme for the playground that would best represent the surrounding landscape.

Nimigon explained that the majority of costs are for preparation of the site.

Excavation needs to happen first and will require gravel, concrete, and sand to allow for proper drainage and stabilization of the structure. Engineered wood fibre will then be placed on top.

"Sand no longer meets the safety standards because you need to have certain absorption of shock for falls, so part of the plan is to integrate engineered wood fibre. It has to be a thick enough layer to meet the safety standards, and it's quite expensive," Baumgartner Spooner said. "There are so many guidelines to follow and standards to meet. And we don't want to just meet them, we want to exceed them."

The committee members said they have received many questions about the possibility of installing a splash pad in the future.

"The playground is our number one goal right now, but that doesn't mean it has to stop there. We're not ignoring that phase two right on the horizon to bring that master plan to fruition," Baumgartner Spooner said.

The committee opted for a longer lasting structure that can be enjoyed by children for the next 20 to 30 years. The current swings will remain in place.

Benefits to the community

All demographics will be able to enjoy the playground, regardless of age or socioeconomic status.

"It's free to play, it levels the playing field, it's an opportunity for absolutely everyone, and is something that is not a want in the community, it's a necessity. Not everyone can afford to go out of town to access free services like that," Baumgartner Spooner said.

Nimigon said with such a huge popula-



Friends Ellie Nimigon, Avonley Bullock, Everly Manandhar, and Rhett Spooner play in the snow where the new playground will be installed. /Submitted

tion growth within the past two years, the community should be catering to young families.

"Right now, there's nowhere close for them to go," he said. "There's nothing to keep people in town for a longer period of time other than to pick up the necessities."

Baumgartner Spooner envisions families making a trip out of coming to town once the new playground is installed, driving more customers to downtown businesses.

"It's going to be fantastic economically for the community. They might go grab ice cream after, they might grab dinner out, they might spend the day in town. It's not a transient travel-through town, we want it to be a destination," she said.

It will help children develop fine and gross motor skills, work on their social skills, and for parents and caregivers to meet one another and socialize as well.

"A lot of people in their child raising years make friends with people with other kids. Having no playground removes an area for those friendships to form," Baumgartner Spooner said.

How to donate

A GoFundMe page is now set up for the Head Lake Park Fundraiser: [gofundme.com/1261a383](https://www.gofundme.com/1261a383).

me/1261a383.

Monetary and cheque donations can be dropped off at Century 21 Granite Group in Haliburton or Minden or at the Baumgartner Realty Group office in Haliburton.

The municipality is also accepting in kind donations.

"There's no fault in why we're in the position we're in, but why are we going to wait? Why do we have to wait? Why don't we help to make this something bigger than we could've ever dreamt of," said Spooner.

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An aerial view of Head Lake Park. /Submitted

Three years in a COVID world

EMILY STONEHOUSE

Staff Reporter

It's officially been three years since the country was shut down due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Many surely remember March 15, 2020. A day that the country began to implement shutdowns in an attempt to reduce the risk of COVID infection.

It was a time of uncertainty, of questions, of concerns.

But here we are, three years later, and the sun still shines. Despite the disease killing over six million people across the globe and impacting thousands right here in our little towns, it's become something many have learned to live with.

Most of the considerations that were put in place during shutdowns have been restored back to pre-COVID days; hand sanitizers lessened and glass barricades removed.

Many are still more comfortable wearing masks, but the politics around them seems to have fizzled out. It seems most are just tired of still talking about it.

And so, after three years of uncertainty, what's changed? And what does the future hold?

Mike Gervais, the principal of Archie Stouffer Elementary School, was optimistic about the next steps for the school. "We have learned a great deal about students and student learning," he said. "We have used diagnostic tools to determine the learning gaps that students may have developed during the Covid school closures, and planned and implemented targeted programming to address these gaps."

He noted that the school board has retracted many of the restrictions that have been in place over the past three years, opening up the opportunities for assemblies, concerts, and regular recesses once again. He believes these have been some highlights from the past year, and is optimistic about the direction the school year is going at this point.

Gervais believes that through it all, he has seen that staff and students at the local school are resilient, adap-



The first COVID-19 assessment centre in the Highlands opened at the Haliburton Family Medical Centre in March of 2020. /FILE

tive, and resourceful. "We have learned that when we work together we can accomplish anything," he said.

Molly McNerey, the owner of Molly's Bistro Bakery was hit fairly hard with the pandemic uncertainty, like many restaurants were. "I know that we weren't hit as hard as restaurants in the city," she shared, "and because of COVID, our full-time population has grown. I think we learned how to be flexible and adjust to change."

McNerey said that while the shutdowns were challenging, she didn't mind a bit of a break to come up with some new ideas and recipes. She was also able to think outside the box and offer alternative food options, as the traditional sit-down dining was off the table.

She developed a series of themed date night ideas, as well as Carry Home Frozen Cuisine, which allowed her to keep her business open, even if the doors were closed. "You are always used to highs and lows when you have a business in Minden," she said, "but COVID certainly put a different spin on that."

One observation McNerey made in this "post-pandemic" world, is that once restrictions started lifting, visitors seemed to have misplaced basic manners that were usually utilized in a public setting. "There was a huge increase in rudeness and impatience," she told the *Echo*. "I think people forgot how to behave in public. It's calmed down now, but it was interesting to see."

McNerey believes that now is the time for the local government to start moving forward. "We need people visiting our community again," she said. "We also need to attract and woo new businesses to our town. The reality is, if there aren't any draws to attract the public then we are not going to attract the businesses and they will go somewhere else." She fears that Minden will become a "dead town" if effort and energy are not put into recruiting visitors.

Despite life going back to "normal", COVID-19 cases are still prevalent in the region, with 3,914 identified cases and 34 deaths in Ontario between Feb. 26 and March 4, 2023. According to Public Health Ontario's weekly epidemiology summary, cases seem to be declining over the past eight weeks.

This is a developing story, and will continue in next week's paper.



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County's shoreline bylaw tailored for three of four townships

JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Haliburton County's proposed shoreline bylaw has been changed to include three of the four lower tier municipalities.

Steve Stone, the county's director of planning, presented the new Shoreline Preservation Bylaw to Minden township council March 9.

After Dysart et al opted not to participate in the county's Shoreline Preservation Bylaw, upper tier staff returned to the drawing board to write alternative legislation, Stone said.

The alternative is to implement the bylaw in the three geographic municipalities that expressed interest in it. The amended bylaw will be presented to county council, he said.

The bylaw was approved by the county August 2022 and was slated to be enacted April 1.

The new bylaw includes site alteration regulations pertaining to blasting, filling, and grading in a shoreline area in addition to the existing tree protection regulations.

Dysart's previous council voted against the new bylaw. The previous mayor felt the legislation left more questions than it answered. A contingent of waterfront property owners got behind the township's opposition to the bylaw.

The group is comprised of more than 300 waterfront residential properties in Dysart and more than 200 owners of waterfront property elsewhere in the Haliburton County.

Property owners have said they're concerned about the delegation of authority for site alteration from the municipality to the county.

In terms of site alteration, Stone said the legislation governs use of trees and

the shoreline land or terrain as far as 20 metres of the waterfront.

"In essence, it prohibits any sort of destruction of trees as well as any alteration of the shoreline unless you are getting a permit," Stone said.

One of the key differences between the previous Tree Preservation Bylaw and the new shoreline rules is the latter includes protection of wetlands, he said.

"When we go out to implement it, it's really to assist property owners along the shoreline or that have wetlands to be good stewards of the land," he said. "I often say to people that good bylaw enforcement starts with the property owner."

Stone said minor landscaping is exempted from the rules. And, he said, misconception abounds in the county about what's enforceable.

"I've often heard that you can't even remove weeds from your property within 20 metres (of the waterfront)," he said. "Well, that's simply not true."

"You're allowed to maintain and replace existing features on your shoreline."

Those features include retaining walls at the shoreline. Removing as much as 25 per cent of vegetation without a permit is allowed, he said.

"Ideally, what you're trying to do is maintain a very natural-appearing shoreline," Stone said.

Property owners issued a permit by the municipality to build within the 20-metre area are not required to get one from the county as well.

Fines for infractions can be as high as \$50,000.

Costs to implement the bylaw will be paid by the county from its reserves for the first seven months. Starting in 2024, the program will be funding proportionately by the participating townships. The fee will be proportionate to the number of

shoreline lots in each municipality.

Minden Hills has 4,984 shoreline lots for 25 per cent of the lots among the three participating municipalities. That township would contribute \$53,801.88.

Algonquin Highlands has 4,186 shoreline lots for 21 per cent at \$45,187.

Highlands East has 3,453 shoreline lots for 17 per cent at \$37,274.

Councillor Bob Sisson said Minden Hills doesn't pay anything for the existing tree preservation bylaw. That posed the question of what the town gets for ponying up more than \$50,000.

"You actually will be paying for the services rendered by the planning department of the county for the implementation of this program," Stone said. "I refer to it as extension work that we provide."

Part of that is compliance monitoring and enforcement. He likened it to an iceberg. Ten per cent that's above water is the enforcement. The rest is the cost to administer the program.

No funds are recoverable by the municipality. The \$100 fee paid for permits by property owners goes into Haliburton County coffers.

"Generally, our goal for most of county council is that everything become revenue neutral," Mayor Bob Carter said. "The people who are utilizing the service pay for the service. So I would say that this is the worst-case scenario."

Coun. Ivan Ingram asked about legal fees in the event a shoreline property

owner challenges the township in court.

"That, actually, would be something that would be borne by the county," Stone said. "If we have to retain a solicitor, that would be something that comes out of the county's legal budget."

Coun. Pam Sayne said she has many reservations about the bylaw. She was voted to represent residents in Ward 2, but she also stands up for all of Minden Hills.

"I get calls from all over Minden Hills," she said. "On this particular file, I've been getting calls across the county, and particularly calls from Dysart because the bylaws that they have are not being enforced."

"When we talk about amalgamation of all of our municipalities, this is where we're seeing there's going to be a problem."

Dysart opting out of the bylaw is disappointing, she said, because it shows how municipalities can't cooperate at the county level.

The money each township pays for implementation should be based on the number of complaints received in that township instead of the number of shoreline properties, she said.

"Whenever you put into place a bylaw that is such a change from what you did in the past, there's no chance of you ever being able to answer every question and, you know, come up with the absolute perfect theoretical bylaw," Carter said.

SIRCH Community Services offer a living wage

The Ontario Living Wage Network (OLWN) is announcing the first certified living wage employer in Haliburton: SIRCH Community Services. SIRCH conducts dozens of programs, plus two retail stores and a non-profit bistro. Their program streams include training, resources, and social enterprises that create resilience, confidence, and connection. As a certified employer, all full-time, part-time, contract, and seasonal workers earn at least the currently calculated living wage of \$19.05 per hour.

"While staff in retail and food services are traditionally paid low wages, we felt that philosophically we could not tackle poverty and food insecurity unless we are truly walking the walk by ensuring our employees are not making less than the living wage for this area," says Gena Robertson, executive director of SIRCH.

A living wage is calculated by the OLWN to show how much a worker must earn per hour in order to make ends meet and enjoy modest participation in civic and cultural community. The calculations gather real local expenses such as shelter costs, childcare, transportation, and food.

They also factor in any applicable government taxes, transfers, and benefits.

"Families who work for low wages often face impossible choices: buy food or heat the house, feed the children or pay the rent. Paying a living wage allows individuals and families to cover household essentials as well as occasional emergencies or unexpected expenses. From a business perspective, paying a living wage can reduce employee turnover, absenteeism, and retraining costs. It can also improve performance and productivity, and lower staff turnover rates."

It may be difficult to pay more for labour, but paying a living wage will help your employees remain in the county, remain in your employ, and feed their families. It's one of the best local economic development strategies we can employ," said Robertson.

For more information, including calculation documentation, coverage map, and certified employer directory, visit ontariolivingwage.ca.

Submitted



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points of view



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Published by White Pine Media Corp



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Forever in our memories: Creighton Feir

A dream playground

IT'S BEEN A couple of months since writing about poverty in the Highlands in one of my editorials.

With the launch of the fundraising campaign to build a new playground in Head Lake Park, it feels like a good time to bring up the “elephant in the County” again.

Money is a difficult subject to talk about. It's simultaneously keeping our society from crumbling while also wreaking havoc on the humans living on it.

It's the reason why some get the luxury of living in multiple homes while others worry about how they'll pay rent for one more month, let alone the rest of their lives.

It's the reason why businesses fall apart and businesses succeed.

It's the shared commodity that we all trade for goods or services, but it's certainly not shared equally, and is usually not shared at all.

The new playground in the centre of Head Lake Park will cost a lot of money.

The committee has been able to secure over half of the funds needed from grants and generous donations, but the remaining amount to raise is still fairly significant, which is why they are hoping for more generous donors to come forward.

I'd imagine some Dysart residents may be thinking this is just an expensive construction of plastic, metal, and wood, and it may deter them from wanting to share their own money for the project. Physically, yes, it is a construction of plastic, metal, and wood, but it's also much more than that.

Setting aside the economic benefits to Haliburton tourism for now, I'd like to focus in on the benefit to local families and children specifically.

According to the Statistics Canada 2021 census for Haliburton County, over half of the population makes less than the liveable rate for the area.

Over half of the nearly 18,500 permanent Haliburton County residents have a household income of less than \$40,000 a year.

That means many likely struggle to pay bills and put healthy meals on the table.

Being able to take their family on a trip or even enrolling their children in extracurricular activities isn't in the picture at all.

This is where talking about money becomes hard.

Yes, the playground costs a lot of money. Yes, that amount of money could help people in many other ways. But, I think where it's going is so important.

I have vivid memories of my childhood playing at the old Head Lake Park playground. When I think of being a kid and living close to Haliburton, I think about that park.

I loved that park. The best day of the week was the day when my parents would say, “After dinner, we're going to go play in the park.”

As a kid, I didn't think about the stores, buildings, trees, or roads in town. I thought about

the park.

And that's something every child living in this area should have memories of for the rest of their lives, too.

A public playground is a place that removes the socioeconomic lines for children and families.

It's a place for kids to be kids, no matter how much money their parents have in their bank accounts.

It's a place to gather, learn, and forget about life's difficulties just for a while.

This park is going to last 20 to 30 years. It would've been a dream for me to get to play on it as a kid.

Yes, it's a lot of money. But it is going towards something for thousands of children to build memories on for the next two decades.



vivian collings

Editorial



Signs of spring by David Zilstra

Pura Vida

I RECENTLY LISTENED TO a podcast by Tara Brach, a well known psychologist, teacher, meditator and author.

She does weekly talks on mindfulness, buddhism and psychology. In this talk she had just returned from leading a meditation retreat in Costa Rica.

The focus of her talk was on “Making the Whole World Your Friend.” Tara introduced the topic by saying that in Costa Rica there is a word that gets used a lot, “Pura Vida.”

It means the pure life, the good life, the simple life. Costa Ricans consider it an expression of their culture, and they use it to say hello, goodbye and we are connected in a friendly and happy way.

It is an expression of friendliness which is really the atmosphere of their culture.

I've never been to Costa Rica, but this alone makes me curious. Who wouldn't want to go somewhere that believes in consistent friendliness as a way of life.

I am sure we can all agree that we all feel more relaxed, trusting and at ease when we are around friendly people.

Living in a tourist area such as Haliburton County, where we rely on people coming, staying and returning, I would think that friendliness is very important.

We want to be known as being friendly, and I believe we each contribute to a friendly atmosphere in our own way. Recently, two members of our community packed up their home and moved to Niagara on the Lake (NOTL).

Judy and Charlie Davis moved south to be closer to family and for other personal reasons. They had lived in Haliburton for 20 years, and we were sad to see them go.

Charlie is well known for his love of music and the music that he made with his friends over the years.

He and his band members performed many times for the long term care residences, at Music in the Park, in local pubs and beyond. Charlie also volunteered at the Fish Hatchery for over 16 years. Judy worked in health care for many years and is known for her beautiful home and gardens that she created.

Most of all, I would say that Judy and Charlie are known for their friendliness. They always have time for a conversation, a story to share and questions to ask about the lives of people they are engaging with.

Judy and Charlie are positive, kind, caring

and friendly people. They are very missed in our town. They arrived in NOTL and began to move in. Within a day they sent a text to us saying that their neighbours had been over to welcome them and were very friendly.

Jim and I laughed, and the first thought that came to our mind is that of course Judy and Charlie have friendly neighbours. It is because they are friendly, and friendly people find friendly people!

When friendliness is part of your daily life there is more opportunity for kindness, warmth, humour, ease and a cup of tea.

Life is easier. I often think of that saying, “People won't remember what you wore or how your house looks, they will remember how you made them feel.” Friendliness matters.

Tales from
the great



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points of view

Pie in the sky

ON SUNDAY, JENN and I decided to have some pie for dessert. "Ah, there's nothing like a nice piece of pie and some intelligent conversation," Jenn said.

I took that as my cue.

"You know, pies sure have come a long way since I was a kid," I began.

"At least we have a nice piece of pie," she sighed.

"The interesting this is when I was a kid, rich people didn't eat pies."

Jenn then sighed, as she often does, when she wants me to educate her further.

"It's true," I said. "Back then, rich people only used pies for settling their disputes."

"I find that hard to believe," she said. And then sighed some more.

It was true though, unless you happen to be one of those whack job conspiracy theorists who believe the Three Stooges just made things up.

Heck, the Stooges actually did several exposés about this.

And what they taught us was that pie fights routinely break out at swanky soirees where snooty, rich people wear tuxedos and tails, ballroom gowns, top hats and monocles. The more monocles in fact, the more likely the pie fight.

It's probably a scientific fact.

In their documentaries, you never actually saw rich people eat pies, even though their banquet tables were packed with them, and several waiters were often

pushing pie-laden trolleys throughout the venue, which turned out to be convenient once the pie fight started. Interestingly, not one of those pies was sliced, which leads me to believe that a pie fight was exactly what they had in mind.

Yes, if the Stooges taught us anything – and, believe me, they did – it is that the rich people back then enjoyed nothing better than a good pie fight.

Typically, someone would insult another person and then get a pie in the face. Then the insulter, who now had a pie covered face, would pick up a pie from one of the aforementioned trolleys, and try to hit the original pie-thrower in the face. Of course, that person would duck and the guy behind him would get it. (Usually right in the monocle.) He then, would wipe pie off his face and pick up another pie and throw it across the room at the person who pried him. That person, almost without fail, would duck, and the pie would hit a snooty middle-aged woman wearing pearls, opera glasses and a ballroom gown. Well, that woman, who had never been so insulted, would then pick up two pies and then things got out of hand from that point on. Before you knew it, pies would be flying all over the place and even the guy that was laughing because he ducked a pie, which hit the woman behind him, would get plastered with a pie mid-laugh. Eventually, the head butler would get in the middle of the room and yell at everyone to stop. And then, after a pause, would get hit with half a dozen pies or more.

"Yup," I concluded, after explaining this to Jenn, "those rich people back then sure knew how to have a good time."

"That's your idea of a good time?" Jenn asked.

"It's on my bucket list," I admitted.

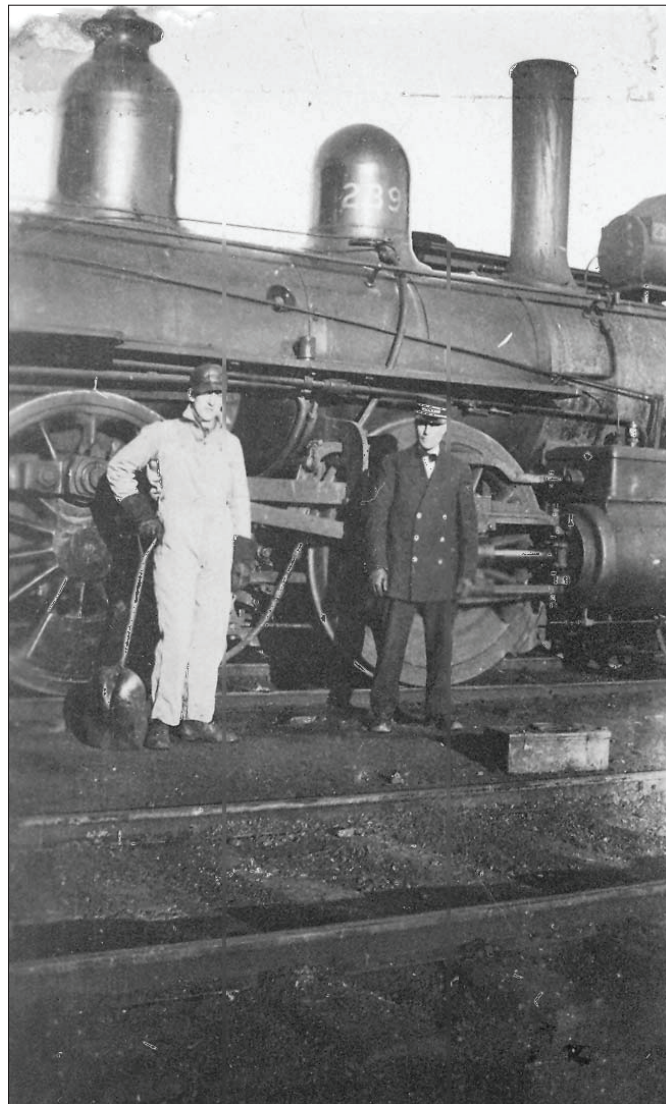
Jenn looked at me and then said, "You do know the Three Stooges were fictional characters, right?"

She probably thinks they faked the moon landing too...



steve
galea

Loon Tales



pic of the past

Canadian National Railway Locomotive #239 alongside the tracks in Haliburton. The man at the left with the coal shovel is not known, but the man at the right is the conductor Clarence Sedgwick of Haliburton (1883-1971); he lived at 3 Cedar Ave. in the Village, beside the Gliddon family. /Submitted by the Haliburton Highlands Museum



Life in the Fast Lane

Members of the Haliburton Rotary Club, Minden Rotary Club, and Rotaract Haliburton Highlands gathered on Thursday, Mar. 9 for a night of fun at Fast Lane Bowling in Minden. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

Haliburton Highlands OPP investigating serious snowmobile collision

Members of the Haliburton Highlands Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Detachment are investigating a serious snowmobile collision that has left one person with serious injuries.

On March 11, 2023, at 11:23 p.m., members from the Haliburton Highlands OPP received information regarding a collision involving a snowmobile that was reported to have possibly struck a tree, on OFSC Trail B112 off High-

way 118 in Minden Hills Township.

The injured person was subsequently transported to a trauma center for medical attention.

The collision remains under investigation, and OPP Technical Collision Investigators are currently at the scene.

Submitted by the Haliburton Highlands OPP

Letters to the Editor note: Submissions are subject to editing for newspaper style and punctuation.

Why Your Opinion Matters

TOURISM MATTERS



You may have seen the recent Resident Sentiment Survey (RSS) that was shared online in December. In this third installment of six, we look at the County's Department of Tourism and its function when it comes to not only promoting but also developing tourism in the region.

Through the RSS, one thing that was made clear is that many of you do not have a clear view on what our county's department of tourism does. And indeed, both the model and function of this department has changed dramatically over the last year.

Prior to January 2022, Haliburton County focused solely on marketing and promoting the region to the rest of Ontario, Canada, and indeed, the world. As such, residents wouldn't really see those efforts as it was all about communicating out to potential visitors rather than having conversations within. Since January 2022, the County has made several fundamental changes to the department, bringing in a Director of Economic Development and Tourism, hiring a Manager of Tourism, and most significantly, introducing a Destination Management Plan (DMP) to guide the development of tourism here through a community-based management process.

The DMP informs smart destination development and marketing decisions, focusing on building communities as much as promoting them, and driving higher conversion rates for more local small businesses year-round. For these reasons, and many more, community-based tourism is a priority within the County. If you look at the 2019 visitor data for the entire region (RTO11), which includes the Haliburton Highlands, it does clearly demonstrate just how important the visitor economy is for our community:

2019 Visitor Data for RTO11 Region:

- Total visits: More than 4 million each year (4,235,461)
- Total tourism receipts: Over \$637 million (\$637,171,861)
- Average spend per overnight visitor: \$231
- Average spend per visitor: \$142
- Average overnight number of stays: 3 days
- Approximately 650 tourism industry businesses

So, what exactly does our tourism department do? Well, there are several activities that the team undertakes to build the Haliburton Highlands into a year-round destination. When it comes to engaging with potential visitors to the region, they produce a visitor newsletter that continues to outperform industry standards and have made many new enhancements (new content and resources) to the tourism website – MyHaliburtonHighlands.com. And this work is paying off – 2022 saw the highest number of visits to the website ever, with a year-over-year increase of 19% from 2021 and a 34% increase since 2019.

When it comes to local stakeholders, the department works directly with individual tourism businesses and not-for-profits conducting in-person visits (over 75 to-date), along with providing several one-on-one business consultations. It also produces regular emails from the desk of the Manager of Tourism, to keep people as informed as possible on any news that might impact their business.

On the industry relations side, the department works with the Tourism Industry Association of Ontario (TIAO), a provincial tourism advocacy agency, on tourism-related issues, and meets regularly with the Ontario Tourism Education Corporation (OTEC) to address workforce challenges in the industry. It has an active partnership with the Workforce Development Board (WBD), HCDC and has a marketing partnership with Ontario Highlands Tourism Association (OHTO). The Economic Development & Tourism division launched the County's first Annual Tourism and Business Summit in 2022, with plans for a 2nd Annual Summit coming this May.



Stay tuned for more details on the survey feedback, including what we've learned and how we plan to put that information into action. In the meantime, if you have any questions at all, please get in touch with Tracie Bertrand, Manager of Tourism for Haliburton County, at tbertrand@haliburtoncounty.ca.



Loretta Kerr D'Ambrosio shared her favourite photo of her and her mother, Lisa Kerr, celebrating Loretta's wedding day with her in 2019. Lisa passed away on Feb. 15. /photo submitted

The beautiful life of Lisa Kerr

EMILY STONEHOUSE

Staff Reporter

When someone passes away, it's often asked what they did in their lives. All those little things that add up over a lifetime.

For Lisa Kerr, perhaps a more apt question would be "what didn't she do?"

A musician, a volunteer, a philanthropist, a homeschool teacher, a daughter, a wife, a mother.

There is no singular word that captures Lisa Kerr, who passed away at the age of 59 on February 15 from a brain tumour.

"The best way I can describe her is just that she had a full zest for life," shared her daughter, Loretta Kerr D'Ambrosio, "she was so optimistic, excitable, and lived for the little things in life."

Loretta sat curled up in an armchair, with her fingers laced around a warm mug of tea while she shared the many stories of the life and times of her mother.

Loretta and her three brothers; Steve, Ryan, and JJ, moved to the Minden region in 1998 when their parents, Bill and Lisa Kerr bought a cottage that they transformed into a warm and loving family home.

Bill and Lisa met when they attended the University of Toronto, and Loretta shared that Bill always told them that he knew Lisa was "the one" at first sight. The two started dating, and eventually went to the University of Western Ontario; Bill to study dental and Lisa to focus on law. Within no time, the two were married, and started a family; having four kids over five and a half years.

While Bill balanced being a young dad and a full time dentist, Lisa dove into the role of motherhood. "We all took turns being homeschooled," said Loretta, "we were a lot younger, and that was just added time we got to spend with her. We had a great time."

On top of being a mother to four growing children, Lisa also became steadily involved with the community as a whole. She was an active member of the hospital board, 100 Women Who Care, Those Other Movies, the Highlands Summer Festival, and the Heritage Ballet Nutcracker performances every year, to name a few.

When asked what Lisa would be most proud of, Loretta didn't hesitate to share her pride in the volunteer dental outreach clinic in Haliburton, which offers support to county residents who may struggle financially with the cost of dental work. "She always worked hard to solve any problem that may come up," Loretta smiled, "if someone would call and say they couldn't make it to the clinic because they didn't have a ride, she would say

'okay, I'll come pick you up.' She did all the behind-the-scenes things."

Lisa was diagnosed with cancer in June of 2022. What started as a presumed concussion from a minor vehicular accident escalated quickly as doctors completed MRI's, and noted two tumours on her brain. One was removed for the biopsy, while the other was identified as malignant, stage four cancer. Lisa completed six weeks of chemotherapy and radiation in an attempt to lessen the impacts of the tumour, but the family was aware of what the future would hold. "We knew what was coming," said Loretta, "but we didn't really let that slow us down. We were just trying to make every day the best it could be."

Loretta shared that she knew her mom wouldn't have wanted any of them to feel stagnantly sad with the prognosis, so they carried on with the zest for life that they had all inherited from Lisa. This included going to plays in Toronto, attending an Elton John concert, and traveling to Turks and Caicos as a family in November of 2022.

"My parents went to Turks and Caicos before mom's diagnosis," Loretta said, "and when they came back, they went on about how we should all do it together, and of course, we all kind of rolled our eyes at the chances that we could all take time off work at the same time, but as soon as we found out about her diagnosis, we all said, 'okay, let's go.'"

After getting back from their family holiday, Lisa looked eagerly towards Christmas, wanting to make it a special memory for everyone. The family had a happy Christmas morning, filled with laughter and warmth, before Lisa's health began to decline in early January. At that point, she was admitted to palliative care, but returned to their family home shortly after to live out her days. "We all sensed what was happening, but it was never explicitly stated," said Loretta, "everybody pulled together, and we focused on making those days the best they could be."

Lisa died in her sleep during the early morning hours of Feb. 15. On Valentine's Day, her and Bill had fallen asleep together, holding hands in front of the crackling fire in their family home.

"Given the hand we were dealt, I don't regret anything," shared Loretta. "We said everything we wanted to say, she heard everything we were saying, and we wouldn't have done anything differently."

The family hosted a celebration of life at the Pinestone Resort on Feb.18. Hundreds attended, either in-person or virtually, to laugh, share, and celebrate the memories of Lisa. "After the celebration of life, we all

see THE page 9

The little things added up over a lifetime

from page 8

had a feeling of euphoria," said Loretta, "we gave her the celebration she deserved."

As her tea began to cool, Loretta reflected on the little things her mom did that really made the world sparkle. Buying matching pajamas for the kids every Christmas, getting the whole family "Camp Kerr" sweaters to make them feel welcome, custom party gifts and little gestures that would make everyone feel seen, heard, and loved. "She always had little cute ideas to just take things, and make them feel that much more special," smiled Loretta.

She noted that the community has been overwhelmingly supportive during this trying time, with locals reaching out to her and sharing memories they had of Lisa, and offering stories of grief that make Loretta feel not so alone. "I feel like I understand grief so much more now," she said, "when people tell me their own stories and experiences, it means so much to me." Loretta hopes to utilize her own personal experiences to connect with others about grief, and offer support to those who may be navigating similar challenges.

As Loretta placed her now-empty tea mug on the side-table, she reached and grabbed her phone. In the photos file, she typed in one word: "mom". The screen flooded with images of Lisa. Lisa laughing. Lisa sitting on the dock in the sunshine. Lisa wearing matching sweaters with the family. Lisa with a tiny puppy. Lisa going in for an operation. Lisa with her arms around her kids. Lisa smiling through chemo. Lisa getting a kiss from Bill on the cheek. Lisa looking happy, her eyes filled to the brim with joy.

The little things add up over a lifetime, even if that lifetime was unfairly cut short. The gifts, the energy, the enthusiasm for the community, the support for her family, the little details that become big memories, the zest for life, the love, through and through. All those little things added up to Lisa Kerr, and a life that was beautifully lived.

Bid on a Bunkie and support SIRCH Community Services

Just in time for spring, SIRCH Community Services is launching an auction where one lucky recipient will win a handcrafted Bunkie.

Built by participants of the Basics of Carpentry employment training program, this one-of-a-kind Bunkie will be open for bids on the Nonprofit Bidding online auction platform from March 9 to the 24 and is open for preview now.

Proceeds from the auction will go back into supporting SIRCH programs, making the auction a win-win!

The Bunkie measures 104 square feet and is eight feet by 13 feet with seven foot high ceilings inside. It features a large steel entry door and two high quality Jeld Wen windows. Clad in painted board and batten style with a shingled roof, the structure is unfinished inside but is fully enclosed, with a floor that is insulated and sealed.

The estimated value of the bunkie is \$8,000 and bidding starts at \$2500.

Basics of Carpentry is an employment training program offered by SIRCH Community Services that gives trainees the carpentry skills they need to gain employment in the construction industry.

NonprofitBidding.org is an easy-to-use, secure online auction platform created to support the fund-raising efforts of non-profit organizations and charities. To bid, simply create an account, register your credit card, and join the fun. Credit card details are never stored on Nonprofit Bidding's servers but are securely transmitted to and stored in an encrypted format with Stripe.

For more information about the auction or to place a bid, go to nonprofitbidding.org.

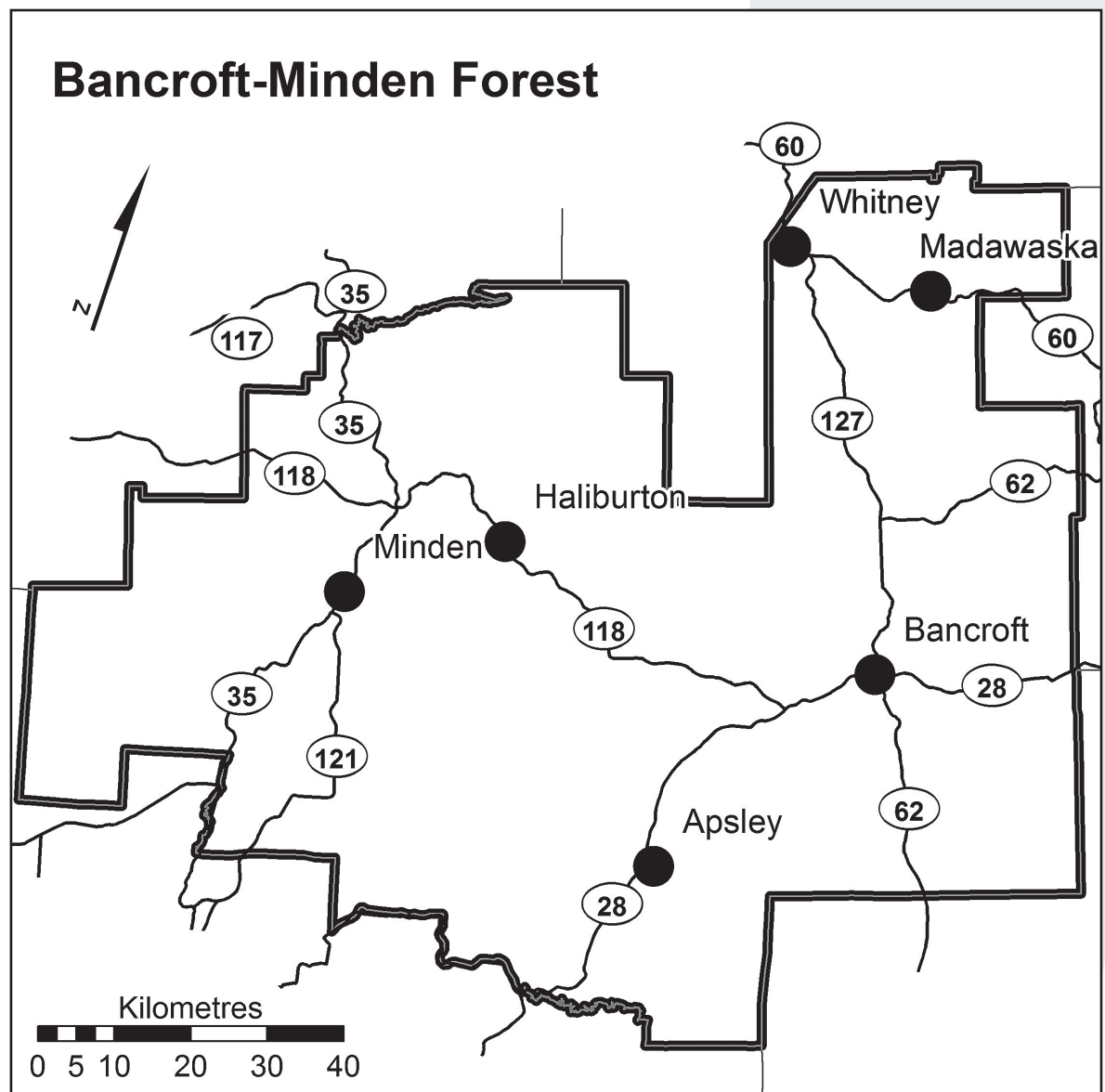
SIRCH Community Services is a not-for-profit organization that addresses gaps and needs in the community by creating programs that aim to create resilience, reduce poverty and encourage connection. It has been serving Haliburton County and beyond for more than 30 years. For more information, go to www.sirch.on.ca/.

Submitted

INSPECTION

Inspection Of 2023 – 2024 Annual Work Schedule for Bancroft-Minden Forest

The April 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024 Annual Work Schedule (AWS) for the **Bancroft-Minden Forest** is available electronically for public viewing by contacting the **Bancroft Minden Forest Company (BMFC)**, during normal business hours and on the Natural Resources Information Portal at <https://nrip.mnr.gov.on.ca/s/fmp-online> beginning **March 15, 2023** and for the one-year duration of the AWS.



Scheduled Forest Management Operations

The AWS describes forest operations such as road construction, maintenance and decommissioning, forestry aggregate pits, harvest, site preparation, tree planting and tending that are scheduled to occur during the year.

Tree Planting and Fuelwood

BMFC is responsible for tree planting on the Bancroft-Minden Forest. Please contact the Forest Company listed below for information regarding tree planting job opportunities.

For information on the rules for obtaining fuelwood for personal use, please see the Ministry's webpage: [Using wood from Crown land for personal use](#). For commercial fuelwood opportunities, please contact the Forest Company listed below.

More Information

For more information on the AWS, to arrange a remote meeting with MNRF staff to discuss the AWS or to request AWS summary information, please contact the MNRF staff listed below:

Ernie Demuth, R.P.F.
Management Forester
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
tel: 613-202-2208
e-mail: ernie.demuth@ontario.ca

Julie Edwards, R.P.F.
Communications Forester
Bancroft Minden Forest Company
tel: 613-332-6890
e-mail: julie@bmfc.ca

Stay Involved

Further information on how to get involved in forest management planning and to better understand the stages of public consultation please visit:

ontario.ca/forestmanagement

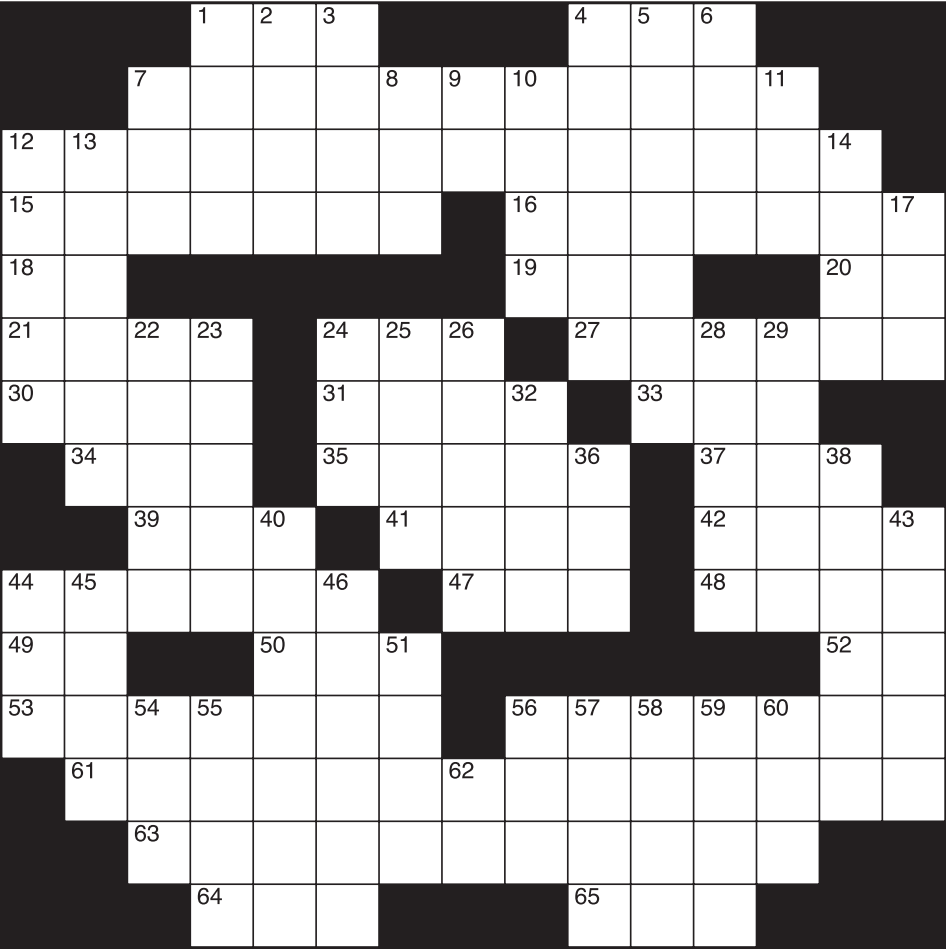
Crossword brought to you by

Ken Barry
Broker
705-754-5280
ken@kenbarry.com

Jacquie Barry
Realtor®
705-457-0652
jacquie@kenbarry.com

"Out Standing In Our Field"





- CLUES ACROSS

 - 1. Relaxing place
 - 4. Plant by scattering
 - 7. A type of explorer
 - 12. Unique traits
 - 15. Lady
 - 16. Dismayed
 - 18. Railway
 - 19. Type of whale
 - 20. Sodium
 - 21. Manning and Lilly are two
 - 24. Where golfers begin
 - 27. Entrapped
 - 30. Influential punk artist
 - 31. Hebrew calendar month
 - 33. Car mechanics group
 - 34. Undesirable rodent
 - 35. Minneapolis suburb
 - 37. Witch
 - 39. Get free of
 - 41. A written proposal or reminder
 - 42. British School
 - 44. Country on west coast of Africa
 - 47. Cool!
 - 48. Information
 - 49. __ route
 - 50. Jim Nantz's network
 - 52. Something to register (abbr.)
 - 53. Give cards incorrectly
 - 56. One who's learning on the job
 - 61. Stevenson adventure novel
 - 63. Taking careful notice
 - 64. CNN's founder
 - 65. Speak badly of
- 3. Portrays a character
 - 4. Expresses happiness
 - 5. Acquires
 - 6. 'The Martian' author
 - 7. Degree
 - 8. 60-minute intervals
 - 9. A detective's pal
 - 10. Group of nations (abbr.)
 - 11. Popular Georgia rockers
 - 12. Fencing swords
 - 13. Basement
 - 14. Samoan monetary unit
 - 17. Male parent
 - 22. Finnish lake
 - 23. A smooth fabric
 - 24. Arctic explorers (abbr.)
 - 25. Mild yellow Dutch cheese
 - 26. Very willing
 - 28. Expressed pleasure
 - 29. Lasso
 - 32. Hindu model of ideal man
 - 36. Move your head in approval
 - 38. Ill-__: gained illegally
 - 40. Die
 - 43. Accused publicly
 - 44. Precious stone
 - 45. Individual thing or person
 - 46. Behaved in a way that degraded
 - 51. Derogatory term
 - 54. No seats available
 - 55. Liability
 - 56. Popular beverage
 - 57. Tough outer skin of fruit
 - 58. __ Spumante (Italian wine)
 - 59. Troubles
 - 60. Negative
 - 62. Camper
- CLUES DOWN

 - 1. A person with unusual powers of foresight
 - 2. Single sheet of glass

Answers on page 13



Abby Gordon of Minden has launched Karinya Home Care Inc., which offers services to seniors and those with disabilities across the county. /photo submitted

A ‘happy and peaceful home’ for everyone

EMILY STONEHOUSE
Staff Reporter

Karinya: an Australian Aboriginal word that can be translated to “a happy and peaceful home.”

This is the vision of Abby Gordon, the founder of Karinya Home Care Inc., based out of Minden.

The bright-eyed 23 year-old originally hails from Australia, but moved to the Haliburton Highlands when she was young. She attended local schools all the way through to high school, before moving to Ottawa to attend Algonquin College for community studies, followed by a focus on developmental services work.

“I always knew I wanted to work with people who have disabilities,” she said. Through her schooling and placements, she felt like she was on the right track. That is, until the pandemic hit.

“When COVID first hit I wasn’t sure what to do,” she shared. “My placements had been cancelled, and I was at a bit of a crossroads, so I decided to move home.”

Upon returning to the Highlands, Gordon started a position at HHHS as a COVID screener. As time went on, she began to connect with the staff and the atmosphere, and it wasn’t long before she was offered a position as an activity aide at Highland Crest in Minden, a long term care (LTC) facility.

“This wasn’t anywhere on my radar,” she laughed. “I never thought about working with seniors, but I absolutely fell in love with it on my very first day.”

Gordon shared with the *Echo* that she felt connected to all the residents at the LTC home. She would spend hours listening to their stories, hearing about their past, and getting them exercising and active to improve their quality of life. “The one-on-one time was really what was the most rewarding for me,” she said.

While the role was engaging, Gordon shared that after nearly three years, she began to feel burnt out. She started considering returning to school, or finding an alternative path, but nothing felt like quite the right fit. Until suddenly, she was inspired to start her own business.

“It was an incredibly hard decision to

make,” she said. “I had no idea how I would say goodbye to the people I was working with, but I knew I needed to walk away. For myself, and for the opportunity to help other people.”

The crux of Karinya Home Care Inc. is “to make people feel like people” in their own homes. Gordon shared that often-times, as people age or are faced with diseases or disabilities, they are often seen as “patients” instead of “people”. She is hoping to remedy that.

Some of the services she offers are personal care and wake-up rituals, companionship care, medical reminders and wellness checks, basic house cleaning, accompanying transportation services, and meal preparation for seniors and those with disabilities, especially those living alone. “I want people to be able to stay in their own homes; the spaces where they feel the safest and the happiest, and I want to help them with whatever they need to be happy and healthy.”

She launched the business on Feb. 21, and within six days, her books were entirely full, with a growing waitlist of over 20 people. “The need is a lot bigger than I originally thought it was,” she said. “I am overwhelmed in the best way possible.”

Gordon hopes to grow her business further, based on the apparent need in the community, but shared that she needs some time and space to be able to get her footing before she can expand her team and her services. “Compassion, empathy, and patience are huge for me,” she said. “I want to grow my team with people who live for those qualities, so I can’t rush that.”

Karinya home care is available across the county, and Gordon will happily answer any questions, or add individuals to a waitlist until she is able to accommodate all the needs in the community. “It’s so hard for me to say no to people, but I just need some patience from people who are interested right now, and I want to help everyone as soon as I can.”

You can follow Gordon’s journey and services on Instagram by visiting @karinyahomecareinc_ or you can contact her directly at karinyahomecare@outlook.com.



Fall in Love with Live Theatre Again this Summer

*Here's what is on the Northern Lights Performing
Arts Pavilion Stage this summer*



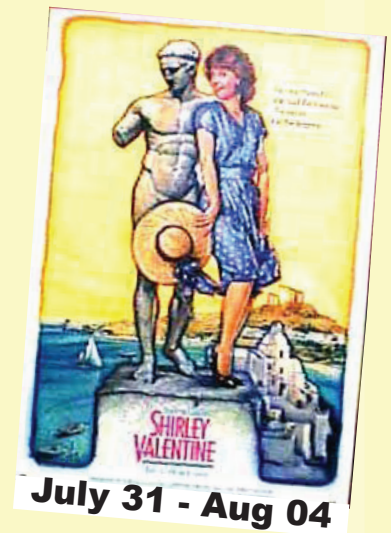
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are still available



Do something Dramatic this summer



Two home playoff wins for the Huskies

Huskies win their first playoff game 5-2 against the Toronto Patriots on Thursday, Mar. 8 at the SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena. Top left, #8 Nicholas Dowling chases the puck. Right, Huskies player #7 Sam Solarino keeps the puck away from a Patriots competitor. /TIM YANO Special to the Echo



The crowd cheers after Huskies player Patrick Saini scores an overtime goal, winning the third playoff game against the Toronto Patriots on Sunday, Mar. 12 at the SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena. /TIM YANO Special to the Echo

The game started with two young hockey players skating around the ice boasting Huskies flags.



#73 Marco Iozzo celebrates the third playoff game win.



Rachel Tam smiles during a pre-climb instruction.



Lorne Foisy demonstrates for the group.

March Break on the rocks

Marta Juszcak climbs the ice wall during a Yours Outdoors ice climb on Sunday, Mar. 12. Instructor and guide Lorne Foisy took a group of brave souls out into the Highlands to get their feet wet in all things ice climbing over the weekend. The group were schooled on the basics of climbing before getting their picks into the ice and climbed the face of the frozen rugged landscape the area is known for. /ADAM FRISK Special to the Echo



Marta Juszcak (left) Lorne Foisy, Sarah Lee, Rachel Tam and Rob Crawford pose for a photo during their Yours Outdoors adventure in the Highlands.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

			S	I	D			D	E	T		
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PUBLIC NOTICE

PROPOSED ROGERS
91.5 METRE WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS
GUYED TOWER INSTALLATION

PROPOSAL:

Rogers is proposing an antenna system on the north end of the property at 1229 Curry Rd., which consists of the following: a 91.5m guyed tower and equipment shelter in a fenced compound. Once completed the antenna system will measure 91.5m height.

Rogers invites you, **by 5pm April 21st 2023**, to provide by phone, mail, or email your comments, and / or request to be informed of the Municipality's position on the proposed antenna system. Rogers will be hosting a virtual open house on April 18th 2023 from 2-3pm, where members of the public can learn more about this proposal, ask questions, and/or provide comments. Please email christian.lee@rogers.com to register for the meeting before 5pm on April 17th 2023.

Rogers will respond to all reasonable and relevant concerns, and the Municipality will be considering comments from the public and Rogers' response to each when providing its position to the proponent and Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada.

Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada is responsible for the approval of this antenna system and requires that we review this proposal with the local Municipality. After reviewing this proposal, the Municipality of Dysart et al will provide its position to Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada and to Rogers.

Contact information:

Proposed Wireless Communications Installation
Reference: **C8610 Haliburton Lake @ Dysart et al**

Christian Lee
On behalf of Rogers Communications Inc.
337 Autumnfield St
Kanata, Ontario K2M0J6
(613) 799-9900
christian.lee@rogers.com





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WANTED Honest reliable house cleaner for 2 hrs on Saturdays from June to September. Starting approx. 12 noon. \$35 Hour **Call 289-983- 8545**

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Cleaning Services

Onondaga Camp, Minden, seeking Staff SEASONAL (April -Oct, 2023) Starting \$20.00 /hr

We are looking for Cleaners to care for our facilities by providing a high standard of cleaning and light maintenance duties. The goal is to keep all facilities in a clean and orderly condition. Responsibilities are to clean and stock designated facility areas (disinfecting, dusting,

sweeping, vacuuming, mopping, restroom cleaning etc.), carry out heavy cleansing tasks and special projects, notify management of occurring deficiencies or needs for repairs, stock and maintain supply rooms, cooperate with the rest of the staff, follow all health and safety regulations, knowledge of cleaning chemicals and supplies, familiarity with Material Safety Data Sheets.

**Up to 48 hour work week Summer (6 days).
Daily and Evening shifts available. (June-Sept)
NO ACCOMODATION PROVIDED**

To protect the health and safety of our clients and employees, we have modified our normal operating policies in response to COVID-19.

If you wish to apply, please send a resume to Matt Brown/Site Manager at matt@onondagacamp.com. Please feel free to contact at (705-286-5025)

A truly Canadian summer tradition, Onondaga Camp offers an extraordinary environment for kids to play, explore, achieve and grow. Situated on the shores of Middle Bob Lake near Minden, Ontario, Onondaga inspires the best in outdoor fun, learning and adventure for girls and boys from six to 16 years old. Onondaga Camp values the diversity of people. We welcome and encourage applications from people with disabilities. Arrangements will be provided, on request, to support candidates taking part in all aspects of the selection process. All responses will be handled with strict confidence.



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Call 705-457-1037
classifieds@haliburtonpress.com
Deadline Friday at 4 pm

400 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY



Camp Timberlane is a co-ed residential summer camp for campers aged 6 – 16 and is looking to hire candidates to join our onsite Housekeeping / Laundry team and our Grounds Keeping and Maintenance. For more information about the camp, visit us at www.Camptimberlane.ca

Housekeeping/Laundry - Full Time, Temporary, Contract

Four positions available

Our Housekeeping and Laundry areas are managed with teams split between Housekeeping and Laundry.

Responsibilities include: cleaning of all buildings, accommodations, washrooms, shower facilities and common areas throughout the camp, including the turnover of living space throughout camp and overall upkeep of camp

facilities. Cleaning and light maintenance duties include, but not limited to sweeping, mopping, cleaning, painting and replenishing supplies needed for showers and washrooms.

Grounds Keeping/Maintenance - Full Time, Temporary, Contract

Two positions available

Our Maintenance and Construction Team are managed with teams split between the Maintenance and Construction Team and Grounds Keeping.

Responsibilities include: keeping the grounds clean and clear of garbage and waste, grass cutting and leaf blowing, landscape maintenance, empty garbage receptacle, operation of front loader, painting, delivery wood for firepits. Sundry duties as assigned. Manual labour or construction experience will be an asset.

Expected Start date: Spring 2023

Candidates will be cross-trained and or assigned to areas based on existing skills and previous work experience.

Candidates must enjoy working outside. A typical work week is 40 hours with potential for overtime. Willing to take required government safety certifications such as WHMIS. Able to support a positive team environment.

Salary: Housekeeping / Laundry or Grounds Keeping: \$17.50 - \$19.50 per hour based on experience.

Maintenance with construction/building experience: \$25.00 and up.

Submit application and resume by email to Jay@camptimberlane.ca



Employment Opportunity Municipality of Dysart et al

Roads Department Seasonal Employees

Reporting to the Operations Manager, the successful applicants will have sound knowledge of the methods, tools and equipment required for the general maintenance of roads during summer months. Primary duties include, but are not limited to, traffic control, pothole patching and spray patching. Previous road maintenance and/or construction experience is considered an asset.

Self-motivated applicants must be able to work outdoors with minimal supervision. A valid Ontario Class 'G' licence is required along with an acceptable abstract. Pursuant to CUPE Local #2142 the rate of pay is \$23.33 per hour based on a 40-hour work week.

A detailed job description is on our website at www.dysartetal.ca

Interested individuals are invited to email a detailed resume and cover letter to:

Laura Casey, HR Manager

hr@dysartetal.ca

No Later Than 12:00 pm Friday, March 24th, 2023.

**** We thank all who apply; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.****

600 FUNERAL SERVICES

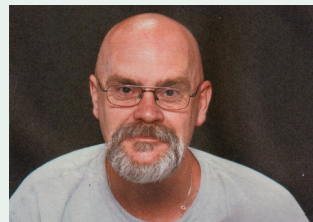
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650 OBITUARIES

Celebrating THE LIFE OF



Cox, Shawn Ronald Sr.

November 10th, 1967- March 3rd, 2023
Passed away peacefully at the QHC North
Hastings Hospital in Bancroft, Ontario, on
March 3, 2023.

Shawn was the son of Basil & Darlene Cox and was born on November 10, 1967. He is survived by his wife, Sandra (nee Breen). Remembered by his children Jennifer, Lee-Ann, Shawn Jr., & Chantal.

Missed by grandchildren Sawyer, Seager, Damian, Carter, Landon, Chase, Zeke, & Bellamy. Cherished by brother Jeff and sister Jackie.

As per Shawn's wishes, cremation has taken place.

Shawn St. enjoyed his job as a long-haul truck driver until 2016. On days when he was not on the road, he would go to Bancroft to grab his all-time favourite Tim Horton's coffee, then go home and wait for his favourite show, NASCAR, to start. When it wasn't the season for NASCAR, he would be watching the Toronto Maple Leafs play and hope they would not lose. Shawn also loved to work with the carnivals around the province. He was able to run the roads and enjoy where he was going. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Canadian Cancer Society or the Heart and Stroke Foundation would be appreciated.

SERVICE

There will be a burial for immediate family only on April 29th, 2023 at 11:00am.

Family and friends are welcomed to join us at Faraday Community Centre (13 Lower Faraday Rd) to celebrate Shawn Sr. from 12:00pm to 4:00pm. Luncheon will be provided.

640 IN MEMORIAM

Michael Bunn (Mike)
Jan. 25, 1977~
March 19, 2017
*A message sent
with love and big Hugs!
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Mom, Dad and Family

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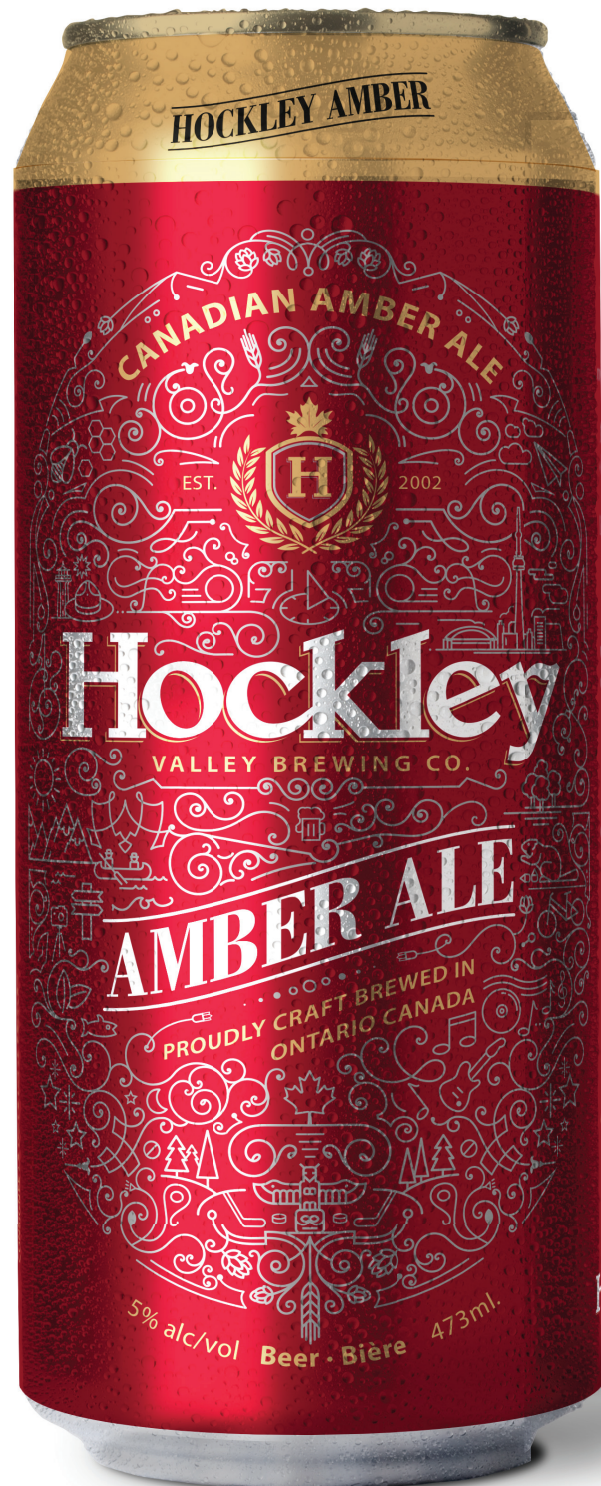
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INSIDE
THIS WEEK:

A SOLDIER'S STORY
*Stuart Baker Elementary School students
learn what life is like for Afghan children*

NURSES WANTED
*Health services defends why it hires
part-time nurses*

WILBERFORCE LIBRARY
*Residents support idea of moving library to
doctors' clinic location*

THE
ECHO
HALIBURTON COUNTY

TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2008

www.haliburtonecho.ca

Vol. 125 No. 11 \$1.25 INCL. GST

Mine 'moving forward:' uranium CEO

MARTHA PERKINS

Editor

The CEO of Bancroft Uranium says his company's plan to develop a uranium mine near Tory Hills has "a strong, realistic likelihood of moving forward."

In an e-mail to the *Echo*, Les Hammond says, "Bancroft Uranium believes that this deposit, with its proximity to transport and infrastructure hubs will reduce costs and make the project economically feasible."

"Additionally, the 1970 metallurgical test that shows 80-plus per cent recovery by simple gravity separation demonstrates a potential for a reliable, low cost producing uranium deposit that can be mined in a sustainable manner."

He was responding to the *Echo's* questions about a column that appeared in the *Vancouver Sun* last Wednesday.

On March 5 columnist David Baines wrote, "Hammond's controversial background is causing much unease among local residents [in Haliburton]. But I don't think they need to worry. In my view, it is highly unlikely that Hammond will ever develop a mine."

The column is part of Baines' ongoing coverage of Vancouver-based companies which are going public on what's known as the OTC

See **CEO** page 25



GREG HOEKSTRA/Echo

All that snow must go

It's sometimes not a pleasant task to clean up after Mother Nature. All day yesterday Dysart roads crews were kept busy by mountains of snow that needed to be removed after a relentless winter storm that swept over the Highlands this past weekend. Roads superintendent Brian Nicholson said the amount of snow his crews have dealt with this winter is the most that's fallen in many years. Snow removal efforts will continue today so please don't park on the roads to make it easier on crews.

Highlands will cut to black on March 29

MATT JAMES

Staff Reporter

It's purely coincidental that a person with the last name of Black is attempting to make Haliburton County go black for one hour on March 29.

Back in January Sue Black, the station coordinator at Canoe FM, read about Earth Hour in a two-page spread in the *Toronto Star*. The *Star*, along with the World Wildlife Fund, is challenging people every-

where to turn off their lights from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. on March 29 to see how much energy we can save. Immediately Black wanted to get involved.

So, how much energy can be saved by turning off our lights for one hour?

Last year 2.2 million people and 2,100 businesses in Sydney, Australia started this global phenomenon. They proved that turning off the lights for one hour prevented the release of 25,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide into the Earth's atmosphere, which

equates to taking 48,000 cars off the road for a year—all that for one hour with the lights off.

"We had a look at it and thought it was really cool," said Black. "It's on March 29, Big Band Saturday Night with host Joan Cameron, so we passed it on to her and she was all over it."

But Cameron wanted to make it bigger; she wanted to get the whole county involved and so it was decided that Black

See **Turn off** page 12

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